

APPENDIX H

**Phipps Ocean Park Borrow Area
Video Survey**

FINAL REPORT

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF FIGURES	II
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Location of Sampling Area	1
2.0 TECHNICAL APPROACH.....	1
2.1 Towed Video Survey	1
3.0 RESULTS.....	2
4.0 DISCUSSION	2
4.1 Towed Video Survey	2
5.0 REFERENCES	2

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1 Location Map	3
Figure 2 Survey Tracklines - Borrow Areas III and IV	4
Figure 3 Hardbottom Inside 400-Foot Buffer Zone - Borrow Area IV	5

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Dial Cordy and Associates Inc. (DC&A) was contracted by Coastal Technology Corporation, Inc. (CTC) to conduct video mapping of the proposed borrow area off of Phipps Park, Palm Beach County, Florida.

1.1 Location of Sampling Area

The site of the proposed borrow areas is located approximately 3,500 feet offshore and located between 1.5 and 2.6 miles south of the fill area mid-point at Phipps Park, Palm Beach County, Florida (Figure 1) and has a typical depth of between 30-50 ft.

2.0 TECHNICAL APPROACH

This section outlines the technical approach used to conduct a towed video survey off of Phipps Park, Palm Beach County, Florida. This survey was conducted January 14 through January 15, 2002.

2.1 Towed Video Survey

To determine the extent of marine resources within the proposed borrow area, a towed video survey was conducted. This survey consisted of towing an underwater video camera in conjunction with a DGPS and video overlay of coordinates. In total, 76 transects were towed, spaced at 100-foot intervals across each borrow area (Figure 2). These transects included the proposed cut limits of the borrow area, as well as a 400-foot buffer around each borrow area to protect any marine resources found during preliminary surveys of the area. Hardbottom areas located within this 400-foot buffer area were mapped and characterized with diver surveys at the conclusion of the towed video survey. Video was then interpreted and a GIS map of the area delineating marine habitats was prepared.

3.0 RESULTS

3.1 Towed Video Survey

Results of this survey indicate the presence of three distinct hardbottom areas within the proposed 400-foot buffer for Borrow Area IV. The relative size and location of the hardbottom areas located is shown on Figure 3. These three areas of exposed rock are typical of hardbottom communities in South Florida and are similar in composition to those described by CSA (2000) in their preliminary mapping effort.

4.0 DISCUSSION

4.1 Towed Video Survey

Since the existing boundaries for the borrow areas did not include an extensive survey of the potential borrow areas, it is our recommendation that modifications to the existing borrow area boundaries be made to incorporate these hardbottom areas and move the existing cut boundary of Borrow Area IV to accommodate this. There were no other hardbottom resources found within the remainder of Borrow Area IV or within the boundaries of Borrow Area III.

5.0 REFERENCES

Continental Shelf Associates (CSA). 2000. Pre-construction hardbottom mapping and characterization survey for Phipps Ocean Park, Palm Beach, Florida. Report prepared for Coastal Technology Corporation. 30pp.

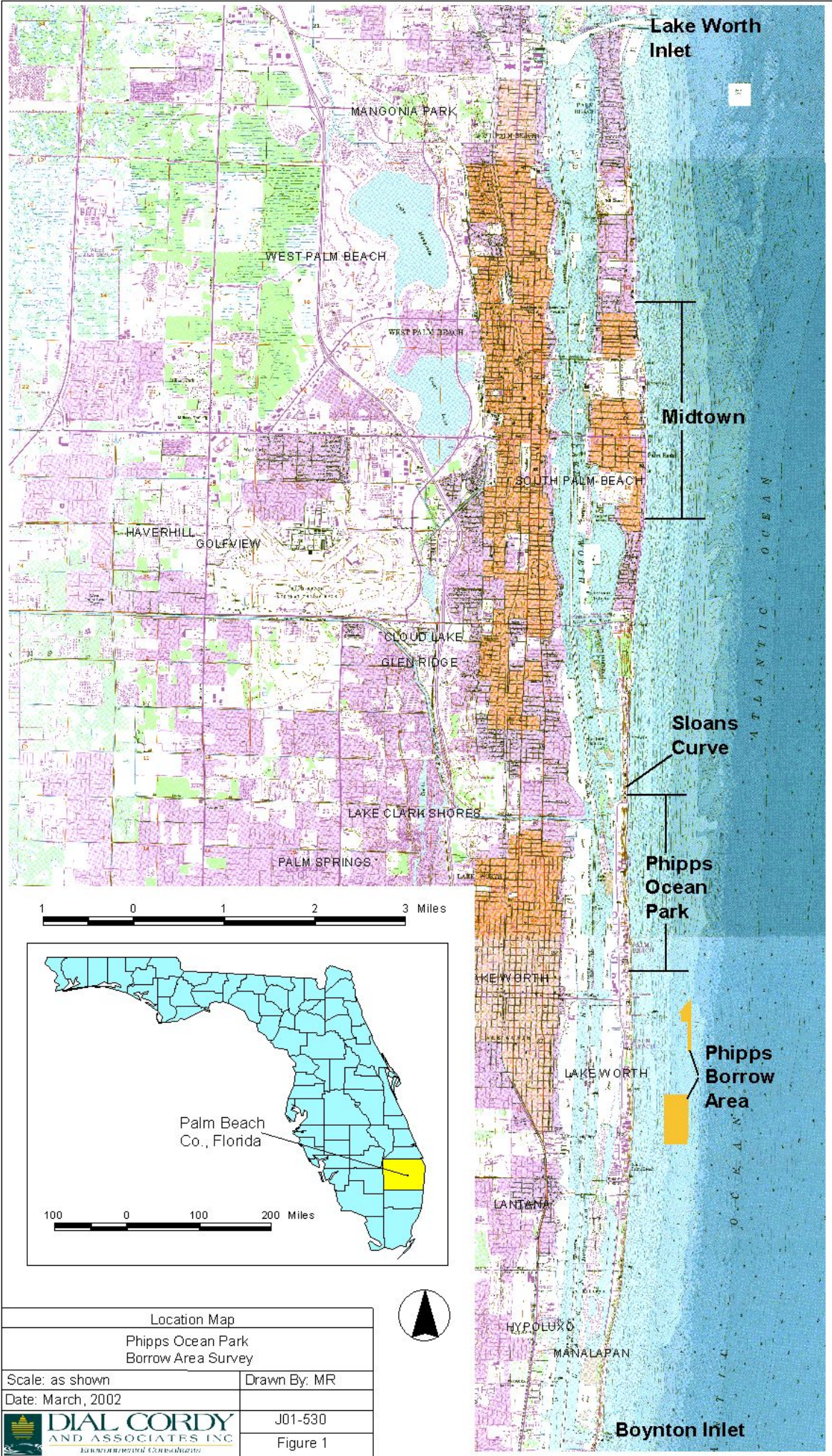


Figure 1 Location Map

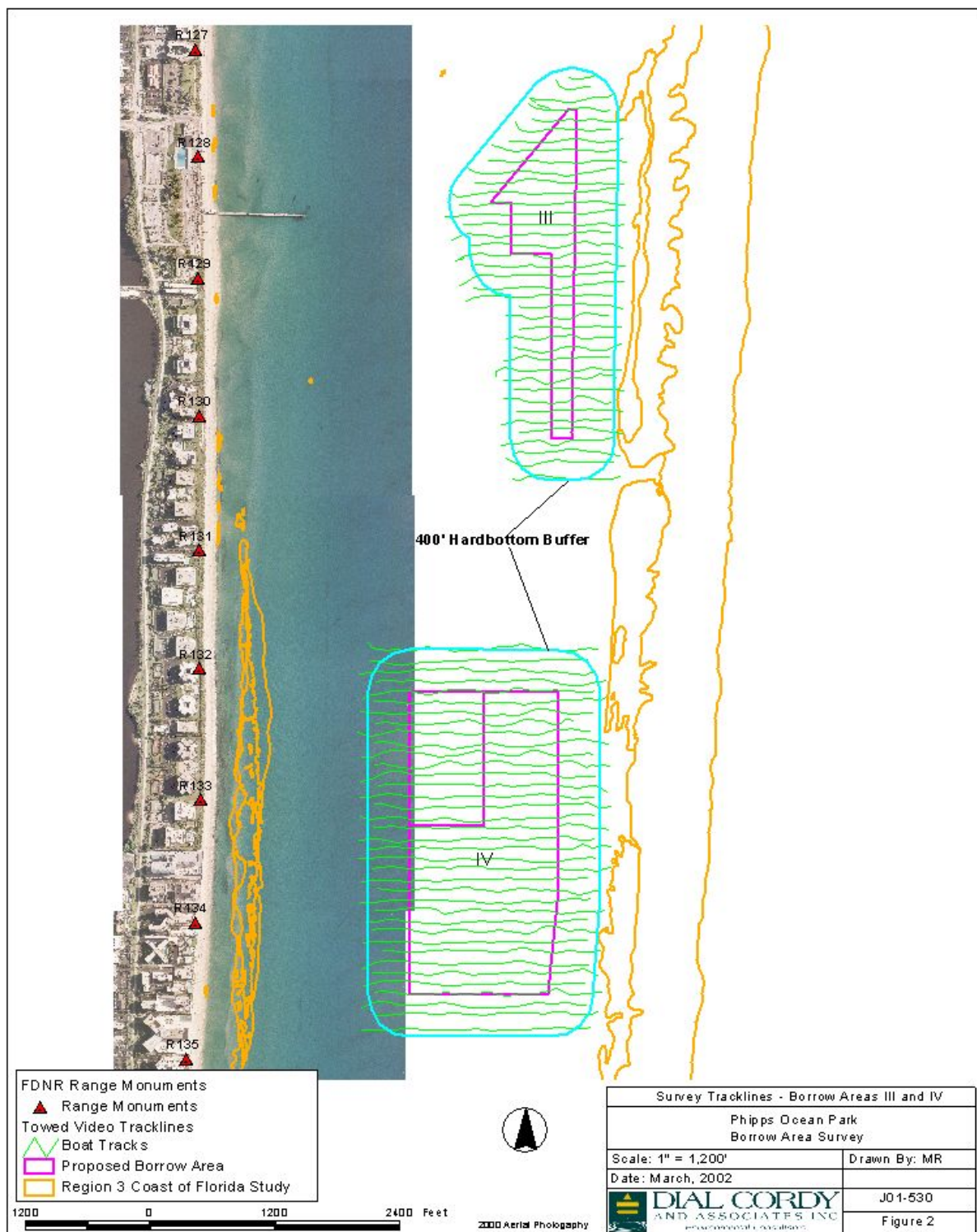


Figure 2 Survey Tracklines - Borrow Areas III and IV

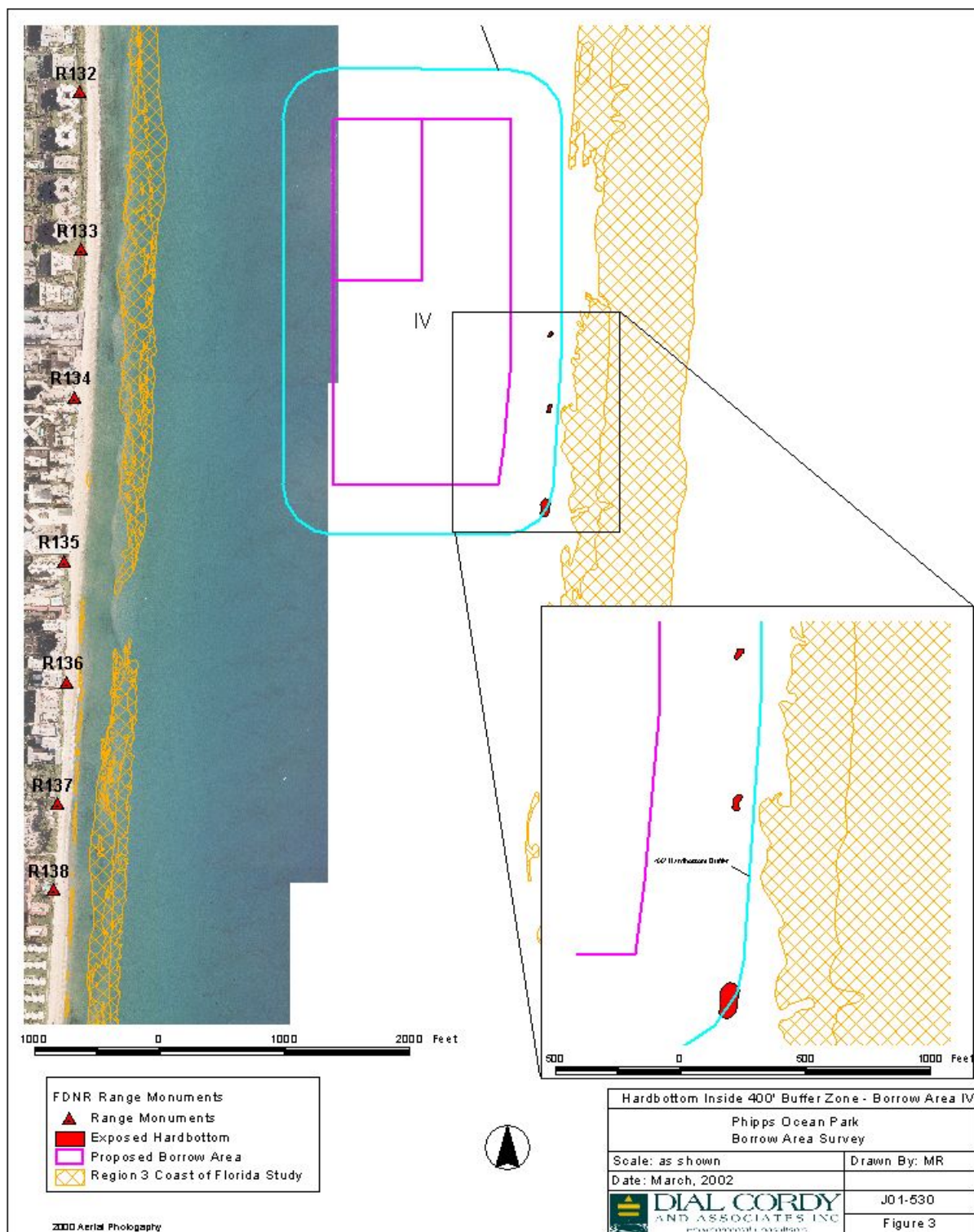


Figure 3 Hardbottom Inside 400-Foot Buffer Zone - Borrow Area IV